

106TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 285

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JANUARY 21, 1999

Mr. MCCAIN (for himself, Mr. DEWINE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. DURBIN, Mr. CLELAND, Mr. HAGEL, Mr. WELLSTONE, and Mr. BREAUX) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Finance

A BILL

To amend title II of the Social Security Act to restore the link between the maximum amount of earnings by blind individuals permitted without demonstrating ability to engage in substantial gainful activity and the exempt amount permitted in determining excess earnings under the earnings test.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Blind Persons Earn-
5 ings Equity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. RESTORATION OF LINK BETWEEN RULES RELATING**
2 **TO SUBSTANTIAL GAINFUL ACTIVITY FOR**
3 **BLIND INDIVIDUALS AND RULES RELATING**
4 **TO EXCESS EARNINGS UNDER THE EARNINGS**
5 **TEST.**

6 Section 223(d)(4)(A) of the Social Security Act (42
7 U.S.C. 423(d)(4)(A)) is amended by striking the second
8 sentence and inserting “No individual who is blind shall
9 be regarded as having demonstrated an ability to engage
10 in substantial gainful activity on the basis of earnings that
11 do not exceed an amount equal to the exempt amount
12 under section 203(f)(8) which is applicable to individuals
13 described in subparagraph (D) thereof.”.

14 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

15 The amendments made by this Act shall apply with
16 respect to taxable years ending after 1998.

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